

U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced today the indictment and arrest of 17 illegal aliens on charges related to false identification documents. All were employed as sandblasters by "Network Industries, Limited", a local company that was subcontracted to work on a naval vessel dry-docked at Metro Machine Corporation.

The defendants were charged with various counts of possession of a false immigration document, use of a false identification document, and false representation of social security numbers. Eight of the 17 defendants were also charged with aggravated identity theft. One defendant had been previously deported and has also been charged with illegal reentry after deportation.

The defendants were identified as: Isaias Gongora Alejandro; Natanael Montejo Arenas; Margarito Escobar Isidro; Saul Montejo Jimenez; Guadalupe Manueles Motejo; Andres Juarez Gonzalez; Maximilliano Ramos Lopez; Alfonso Maldonado; Benjamin Estrada Sanchez; Abenamar Hernandez Arenas; Anselmo Hernandez Arenas; Javier Jimenez Cordova; Margarito Escobar Martinez; Jesus Manueles Morales; Elijio Caporali Hernandez; Nicolas Manueles Montejo; and Miguel DeLaRosa Sanchez. Because the defendants were all illegal aliens with fraudulent identity documents, it is noted that the accuracy of these names is subject to further investigation.

Mr. McNulty stated, "These indictments are a significant step forward in our initiative to enhance the security of the ports and military assets in the Hampton Roads area."

The investigation was conducted by the Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement) and Naval Criminal Investigation Services. Assistant United States Attorneys Michael C. Moore and Joseph E. DePadilla are prosecuting the case for the United States.

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